

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07

FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 OES-03 STR-01 TRSE-00

FRB-03 FEA-01 /092 W

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R 231619Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7452

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, (FRIDERICHs, HANS), EGEN, PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICHs' DESIRE TO
VISIT WASHINGTON

REF: BONN 8131 (1974)

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED INDICATIONS OVER THE PAST
SEVERAL WEEKS THAT ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICHs HAS
A REVIVED INTEREST IN A VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO
ESTABLISH A CLOSER WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
ADMINISTRATION. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THEN
PRESIDENTIAL COUNSELLOR RUSH MADE REFERENCE TO SUCH
A VISIT IN HIS EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH FRIDERICHs
LAST SUMMER.

2. FRIDERICHs PLAYS AN IMPORTANT IF NOT LEADING ROLE
IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES
IN AREAS OF SIGNIFICANT CONCERN TO THE US I.E. ENERGY,
TRADE POLICY, AND GENERAL ECONOMIC POLICY. IN ADDITION
HIS STATURE WITHIN THE GERMAN POLITICAL SCENE HAS
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BEEN ENHANCED BY HIS ELECTION AS NUMBER TWO

MAN IN THE FREE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. IN OUR VIEW A SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO WASHINGTON WOULD DO A GREAT DEAL TO SOLIDIFY OUR CONTINUED GOOD RELATIONS WITH THIS IMPORTANT FRG POLICY MAKER.

3. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THE DEPARTMENT EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF A US INITIATIVE FOR A FRIDERICH'S VISIT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. ISSUES THAT WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO COVER INCLUDE THE MTN, ENERGY CONSERVATION, ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES AND COORDINATION OF MACRO-ECONOMIC POLICIES. IN VIEW OF THIS RANGE OF ISSUES, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE SECRETARY, UNDER-SECRETARY ROBINSON, SECRETARIES SIMON AND DENT, PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORS GREENSPAN AND SEIDMAN AS WELL AS THE SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE INTERLOCUTORS FOR FRIDERICH'S. SINCE FRIDERICH'S WILL BE HEAVILY INVOLVED IN KEY STATE ELECTIONS IN THE RHINELAND PALATINATE ON MARCH 9 AND IN NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA ON MAY 4, THE VISIT WOULD PROBABLY BE MOST OPPORTUNE IN LATE MAY OR EARLY JUNE.

HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN01187
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750026-0201
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750128/aaaaaycw.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BONN 8131, 75 (197
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <28 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICH'S DESIRE TO VISIT WASHINGTON
TAGS: OVIP, GE, (FRIDERICH'S, HANS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006